

EDITOR'S BOOK TABLE

"THE CAUSES OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION."

Marion Crawford's Definition of a Novel--Notices of New Works.

The Causes of the American Revolution, by JAMES A. WOODBURN, Ph. D., Professor of American History, Johns Hopkins University. Tenth series, No. 12, of Johns Hopkins University studies in History and Political Science. December, 1892. 50 cents. This pamphlet closes the series for the tenth year of the Johns Hopkins studies, and was originally a university-extension lecture. The author is one of the graduates in the department of history at the Hopkins, and is now connected with the University of Indiana.

The starting point for the study of the American Revolution is fixed at 1763, a turning point in the history of Europe as well as marking the close of the Seven Years' War. From the English Revolution in 1688 to the field of Waterloo in 1815 France and England had been engaged in almost constant warfare, and one of the main causes was the rivalry of the two nations in respect to colonies both in Asia and America. Another Colbert and another La Salle, instead of the shameful and imbecile reign of Louis XV., and how changed might have been the history of the western world (page 8). Pitt's genius aided America during the Seven Years' War and won to England the treaty of Paris with its great results--French cession of Canada to England and that of Louisiana and the Lower Mississippi Valley to Spain. In this way English America was brought into being and the way prepared for the American Revolution. The rest was now to depend on the colonists themselves.

As indirect causes of the war there are given (1) the arbitrary rule of the royal governors and (2) the commercial restriction by the navigation act and laws of trade. Professor Woodburn follows Lecky's chapter on America in his third volume pretty closely, and takes up separately the three distinct measures of Grenville which resulted so disastrously: (1) The enforcement of the trade laws; (2) the quartering of British troops in America; (3) the effort to raise by parliamentary taxation a part of the money necessary for this and other purposes. This last, of right, receives the greater attention as the prime mover of events, and interest is at once concentrated on the Stamp Act. The different viewpoints clearly set forth--the English arguments with exceptional candor, as also the American--Lecky being still the chief authority, and is throughout suggestive of the method of lines of thought, as well as the leading ideas of the pamphlet. This pamphlet is therefore a general summary of the conditions precedent to the breaking out of the Revolution, and, while containing little that is original, is yet a succinct outline as befitting an extension lecture.

But we must take distinct issue with its conception and the character of its spirit. We are well aware that the Southern, though originally belonging to Virginia, after the Revolution, became largely peopled with emigrants from New England; and transaccents in great measure for the fact that they have borrowed their habit of mind largely from that section. We do not find any fault in recognizing all causes of the American Revolution, but we are amazed that a quasi-scientific article should be written on this subject, virtually ignoring the existence of Virginia altogether. The second page of the monograph speaks of "the settlement of the country at Plymouth and Jamestown." We did not know before that the Plymouth settlement was anterior to that at Jamestown, and that it had been led to suppose that Virginia had played a by no means inconspicuous part in bringing about the Revolution, but here we have the name "Virginia" scarcely mentioned at all, save perhaps twice, and that merely in an incidental way. In sooth, it was because the author was so easily accounted for the fact that the revolutionary spirit, the opposition to the home government, was stronger in New England than in the South" (page 23). This is not only illogical, the terms in the syllogism not being identical, but is furthermore sheer allegation and in no sense proof. We wonder if Professor Woodburn has taken the trouble to examine into the manifestations of "the revolutionary spirit in the South." From what follows we should say not. In another place (page 43) he declares that "States' rights were very early a part of the American political faith." Surely he might have allowed the South some "revolutionary spirit" springing from this principle. An example of arbitrary rule on the part of the royal governor is found in New England in 1685 under Governor Andros (page 15), but had the author deigned he might at least have mentioned a more notable case in Bacon's rebellion against Berkeley in Virginia a decade earlier. Otis is cited at length (page 25), and John Adams's verdict is given. "Then and there was the first scene in the first act of opposition to the arbitrary claims of Great Britain. Then and there the child Independence was born," but the name of Patrick Henry occurs nowhere in any connection in the text, of and to whom the same John Adams wrote that Henry would "have the glory with posterity of becoming a coadjutor in this great Revolution" (*Life and Works of John Adams*, Volume IX, page 286). Again, on page 39, the author states that "the first public opposition in America to parliamentary taxation was made in Massachusetts," and Patrick Henry's claims are relegated to a footnote where they are summarily disposed of by a reference to Wells's *Life of Samuel Adams*; but only the one side is given, and the fact that the latest biographer of Henry has reviewed this evidence, brought in fresh material, and asserted distinct claims, is not even hinted. Indeed, the presumption is that the author is personally ignorant of Mr. William Wirt Henry's three volumes, as besides there being no reference to it in the text, it is not even given in the two pages of bibliography cited at the end--albeit it is one of the latest and greatest works treating the subject upon which our author has written. To dispose of a disputed point in a dogmatic spirit by a single reference in a footnote, to overlook the latest evidence and authority, shows either wilful unfairness or--what is worse still in what pretends to be a scholarly production--negligence in looking over the material and sheer ignorance.

What is claimed for Patrick Henry has been concisely stated in this latest biography, Volume I, page 104: "The passage by his resolutions of May 29, 1776, formed the first opposition to the stamp act after its passage, and by their popular effect the great point of resistance to British taxation was universally accepted in the Colonies, and the Revolutionary war was thus brought on." There is reason to believe that Otis was willing to submit despite his former protestations, as so many others, while they recognized the great injustice of the act,

and when the words of Henry's speech, in which he rang the "alarm-bell," an expression emanating from the "American Revolution," and led the way. She was the first to organize a local government, her assembly meeting in 1619, even before the Plymouth settlement. As early as 1624--ten years before any other colony had an assembly--this body declared that "the Governor shall not lay any taxes or impositions upon the colony, their lands, or commodities, other way than by the authority of the General Assembly, to be levied and employed as the said Assembly shall appoint" (Hening's Statutes at Large, I, 24). Not that Virginia was alone in expressing such sentiments, or that the Revolution was the work solely of any one State or any one man--such a claim would be to disregard all philosophy of history, as Professor Woodburn has done--but Virginia continued from time to time, as occasion afforded, to assert these principles, as also did the other colonies, alike pervaded by the English sense of "fair play," justice, and liberty. Likewise the honor due to Virginia in connection with the committees of correspondence, whereby was brought about the long-desired union by proposing permanent committees of correspondence between the several colonial assemblies, has been fully shown in Chapter VII, of Volume I, of Mr. Henry's book, and was later made a subject of special investigation by Professor Garnett, of the University of Virginia, for the Virginia Historical Society.

The assumptions underlying a work like this, the failure to recognize that there are other causes, other States, and other influences outside of New England and Massachusetts, evidence to our mind the fatal weakness of the historical school so potent in the America of to-day. It was not so with the older and greater school of historians; it will not be so with the greater that are to come. But alas! for the present it is this spirit which pervades so much of the historic investigation of young scholars who have recently graduated from universities, and they are writing without having first collected all the evidence, and in their eagerness to follow up one thread they deliberately turn their back on all others. It is this narrowness of conception, this one-sidedness, not to call it by any worse name, though intellectual near-sightedness and ignorance suggest themselves, which vitiate what might often prove acceptable and valuable work. The present pamphlet may have served in certain circles as a university-extension lecture, but we are surprised to see it receive the imprimatur of the Johns Hopkins University studies, from which we have hitherto received and been led to expect better work.

In the January *Forum* Mr. F. Marion Crawford, the well-known novelist, who has just published "Don Orsino," and "Satanstoe," has an article as to "What is a Novel?" He defines the novel to be "an intellectual artistic luxury," this definition covering what he considers the three great essentials--viz., to appeal to the intellect, to satisfy the requirements of art, and to be a luxury. "The point upon which people differ is the artistic one, and the fact that such differences exist makes it possible that two writers as widely separated as Mr. Henry James and Mr. Rider Haggard, for instance, find appreciative readers in the same year of the same century--a fact which the literary history of the future will find it hard to explain."

"The first object of the novel is to amuse and interest the reader," and Mr. Crawford is greatly opposed to the "Fenchon" novel, the "purpose novel." He believes that in art of all kind the moral lesson is a mistake; for instance, as after all a novel is a play, and "if it be true that any really good novel can be dramatized, nothing short of a miracle could put a purpose novel on the boards."

The presence of woman as spectator makes the play more, and the consequence of woman as a reader "tends to the wind of realism to the sensitive innocence of the ubiquitous lamb." "The result of the desire for realism in men who try to write realistic novels for the plain-minded American and English girl is unsatisfactory. It is generally a photograph, not a picture--a catalogue, not a description."

Mr. Crawford gives especially eloquent evidence for his present position, and it seems to me that the perfect novel, as it has always seemed to me that the perfect novel, as it ought to be, exists somewhere in the state of the Platonic idea, waiting to be set down on paper by the first man of genius who receives a direct literary inspiration. It must deal chiefly with love. For in that passion all men and women are most generally interested, and for the memories that softly vivid recollection of an active past and shed a tender light in the dark places of bygone struggles, or because the hope of it brightens and gladdens the path of future dreams. The perfect novel must be clean and sweet, for it must tell its tale to all mankind, to saint and sinner, to the idealist and the defiled, just and unjust. It must have the magic to fascinate and the power to hold its reader from first to last. Its realism must be real, of three dimensions, not flat and photographic; its romance must be of the human heart and truly human--that is, of the earth, as we all have found it; its idealism must be of the transcendent, not of the man's mind, but proportioned to man's soul. Its religion must be of such grand and universal span as to hold all worthy religions in itself."

With these promises the conclusion follows naturally. "Why must a novelist be either a 'realist' or a 'romanticist'?" And, if the latter, why 'romanticist' any more than 'realistic'? Why also and good novel not combine romance and reality in just proportions? Is there any reason to suppose that the one element must necessarily shut out the other? Both are included in every day life."

One more contribution to the interesting discussion which the latter-day French and Russian art in novel-writing has precipitated, and which Mr. Howells in American fiction has done so much to continue.

Announcement is made that in the spring Francis P. Harper, of New York, will publish Dr. Elliott Cones's new edition of Lewis and Clark's "Travels." It will contain all of the original Philadelphia edition of 1814--preface, Jefferson's memoir of Lewis, his journal, expedition maps, plates, and appendices, together with a new preface, bibliography, memoirs of Lewis, Clark, and Sergeant Gass, copious notes (historical, geographical, ethnological, zoological, botanical), a new map, new portraits, and other illustrations, and a complete index (the first ever made).

The Financial Reform Almanac. JOHN HERMON, London. This is the free-trade almanac of England and is replete with figures intended for the guidance of free-traders, fiscal reformers, protectionists, and not measured. Much of the information is elaborately tabulated.

For sale by ROBERT BRILL, 495 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C. *Winckler's, The Poems of William WINTER*. New York: MACMILLAN & Co. 292 pages. 75c.

A new, handsomely-printed, and dainty edition of the best poetic efforts of this well-known dramatic critic.

For sale by WEST, JOHNSTON & Co. *The Son of Man*, by HAROLD BROWDER. Two Volumes. Chicago: LEONARD. A book that would be horribly blasphemous were it not evident that the author is insane.

A New York, by MINNIE GILMORE, author of *The Son of Man*, from *Pratt's Land*. New York: LOVELL, CORTELL & Co. 45, 45 and 47 East Tenth Street. 352 pages. 45c. 50c.

QUERIES & ANSWERS.

UNLAWFUL SHOOTING OF DEPRECATING STOCK.

Street-Railways in Richmond--Last Confederate Flag--Andersonville Defended.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Please inform me what constitutes unlawful shooting of stock deprecating on a farmer's crop, and what is the penalty for so doing? T. M. N.

There is no special law which constitutes unlawful shooting of stock deprecating on a farmer's crop. The owner or manager of any horse, mule, hog, sheep, or goat is, however, liable to a fine and also for any damage sustained by reason of the entry of any such animal into any grounds enclosed by a lawful fence, or where the boundary lines of lots or tracts of land have been constituted lawful fences. For each succeeding trespass by such animal is liable for double damages and after five days notice of the fact of two previous trespasses the owner or tenant of said grounds is entitled to such animal if it be found again trespassing thereon.

Newspaper Postage.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

In what way is the postage paid on newspapers by the publishers, as there is no stamps put on them? J. D. J.

It is paid at the office where the papers are mailed, and by the pound.

R. S. V. P.

CREEK, N. C.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Will you please inform me through the columns of your paper what "R. S. V. P." stands for and its origin?

A READER.

Repondez, s'il vous plait--Answer, if you please.

Westminster Abbey.

Richmond, Va.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Is there an American buried in Westminster Abbey? If so, who is it?

A SINCERESMAN.

There is none so far as we can ascertain. There is a bust of Henry W. Longfellow in the Poets' Corner.

Peasants: How to Plant Them.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Ought peasants to be hulled before being planted? Should the hull be cracked beforehand? RICHMOND VOTER.

The peasant is always hulled before being planted. The farmers have an implement they call a cracker, which is used for hulling. The inside skin, or covering of the kernel, must not be broken; otherwise it is not good seed.

Newspaper Laws.

COVINGTON, VA.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

I enclose a notice which I sent from a newspaper. Please let me hear how it can be true.

W. E. S.

The article is one giving what purports to be United States laws governing subscriptions to newspapers. We do not believe that there are any such laws on the Federal statute-book. In fact, Congress has no right to pass any such laws.

Last Confederate Flag.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Did the last flag adopted by the Confederacy consist of an entire white field or was there a red perpendicular stripe upon the end occupying one third of the white ground?

I have seen it painted both ways. Which is correct? H.

The last flag adopted by the Confederate Congress March 4, 1865, did not have an entire white field. A perpendicular red stripe was placed upon the outer edge.

Andersonville Defended.

MCGAINESVILLE, ROCKINGHAM CO.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

In your WEEKLY of the 17th instant you give Herman Braun, a Milwaukee journalist, his published book on the command of the Andersonville military prison, who was hanged by the Federal authorities at Washington soon after the close of the war.

Can you say where the book can be obtained? J. D. S.

It is published by the C. D. Fahsler Publishing Company, Milwaukee.

Webster and Bonaparte.

ROLYETTS, BUCKINGHAM COUNTY, VA.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Your correspondent, "Ignoramus," asks "How Daniel Webster and Madame Bonaparte (nee Patterson) were related or connected."

A grandson of the latter, Colonel Jerome Bonaparte, married a grand-daughter of Mr. Webster--a Miss Appleton, of the noted Boston family of that name.

A younger sister of Mrs. Jerome Bonaparte married Walker Keith Armistead, son of General Armistead, of Confederate fame.

Both the Bonapartes and Armistead families reside at Newport, R. I., where they have cottages. A. D. BARNES.

Street Railways in Richmond.

INEX, VA., January 28, 1893.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

In what year was the street-railway system begun in Richmond?

QUERENT.

A horse-car line was in operation in Richmond on Main street from Ninth to Twenty-eighth at the outbreak of the war. It was built in 1860, we think, and it is also our recollection that in 1861 or 1862 the rails were taken up to be made into or used for armor-plate for ironclads or for shore batteries. A similar line was put into operation soon after the war ended. The electric system was adopted in 1887.

Price of Wheat in 1883.

GENTO, POWHATAN COUNTY, VA.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Please inform me what was the market price of wheat for the year 1883.

R. R. W.

The highest prices paid for wheat during the year 1883 were as follows:

White wheat, February 23, \$1.37 per bushel.

Longberry wheat, February 23, \$1.37 per bushel.

Shortberry wheat, February 23, \$1.37 per bushel.

White wheat, September 23, \$1.12 per bushel.

Longberry wheat, September 23, \$1.12 per bushel.

Shortberry wheat, September 23, \$1.12 per bushel.

White wheat, September 23, \$1.12 per bushel.

Longberry wheat, September 23, \$1.12 per bushel.

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Shortberry wheat, September 23, \$1.12 per bushel.

White wheat, September 23, \$1.12 per bushel.

Longberry wheat, September 23, \$1.12 per bushel.

only the issue of the bank in question can be received to redeem the bonds? If the latter, what method is adopted to call in the scattered issue, and at an event of destruction from any cause who is the gainer thereby?

Please give a clear explanation of the points bearing upon this matter.

CURIOSITY.

A national bank discontinuing business can deposit United States legal-tender notes and retire the bonds deposited to secure its circulation. This deposit of money is held by the Treasury for redemption of issue when presented. If never presented, the profit will inure to the government. At least, no provision is made otherwise. The last report of the Comptroller of the Currency shows nearly twenty-six millions of dollars held for redemption of such issues.

Taxation in Richmond.

Richmond.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Will you kindly let me know what the total amount of taxation on property in the city, including public buildings, according to the assessments of 1892?

What is desired is to ascertain what the city is worth.

SINCERESMAN.

The assessed value of real and personal property in Richmond is \$32,674,131. The property exempt from taxation--government, State, municipal, educational, and charitable--is not assessed, but is supposed to be worth six or seven millions of dollars.

Howitzer-Monument Model.

NORFOLK, VA.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Who was the model for the "Howitzer" Monument recently unveiled (and so much admired) in your city?

S. T. W.

We learn from Mr. Sheppard that no particular model was used in the composition of the Howitzer-Monument figure, but, as is very frequently the case, the features were selected from several photographs in the endeavor to embody his idea of the form and expression of the face. The pose was modeled from a young gentleman not connected with the Howitzer Company.

Money Circulation.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

In your Sunday's queries will you give us the amount of money in circulation in the United States, the per capita, and also a comparison with former years and foreign countries?

H. C. R.

GRESHAM, N. C.

In July, 1881, the whole amount of money was \$1,496,541,823; the whole amount of circulation was \$1,111,238,119.

We haven't at hand figures which we can rely upon for foreign countries.

A Horse in Dispute.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Will you kindly answer the following queries:

1. A buys a horse from B for \$100 and gives him bond for that amount payable on demand. After a reasonable time B demands his money, which A fails to pay. Now has B any more right in law to the horse in question for the purchase-money due on the same than he would have to any other personal property in the possession of A?

2. If it had been stipulated in the above bond that the right and title to the said horse was to remain with B until all of the purchase-money had been paid, though A had possession of the horse from the day of purchase, would this give B an undeniable lien or right to the horse in order to secure the payment of the purchase-money for the same?

StuSchen.

Cumberland county.

1. No. The purchaser cannot claim the horse under the poor debtor's exemption laws against a claim for the purchase-money.

2. Yes; that is, as between the parties themselves.

Rents Out His Wife's Farm.

FULTON, MO.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

If a man rents his wife's farm out without her signing the contract and their names being witnessed, is it lawful by the laws of Virginia? And how many days' notice is required?

ESQUIRE.

If the marriage was prior to April 6, 1877, and the farm was acquired by her before that time, then the husband has at least an estate for the joint lives of both husband and wife in the farm. In such case the wife was not a necessary party to the contract. No witness is required. Under the present laws of Virginia it is impossible to answer the question without knowledge of how and when the wife acquired the title to the farm.

No notice is necessary to or from a tenant whose term is to end at a certain time.

In order to terminate a tenancy of land, without a city or town, six months' notice prior to the end of the year is necessary.

Code of Virginia, section 2785.

Vomition.

BANE, GILES COUNTY, VA.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

I have a milk-cow that throws up her food occasionally--about a gallon at a time. She will be affected this way for a day or so, and then will be all right for some time. The cat well and is in good health otherwise. Please give me a remedy.

G. H. P.

Vomition takes place readily in cattle, and is sometimes seen as a symptom of some irritation of the rumen, or may occur in consequence of the presence of foreign bodies in the rumen or reticulum. All who are acquainted with the habits of cattle know that they have a great fondness for chewing and swallowing all sorts of things. Old shoes, scissors, etc., have been found in the rumen; and a case is recorded in which a snake 3 feet 11 inches in length was drawn out of a cow's mouth. It is possible for a portion of the food to remain in the rumen six or seven weeks. This has been proved conclusively. Any of the causes mentioned above may induce vomition. A tumor in connection with the rumen or reticulum may also give rise to vomition.

TREATMENT--A laxative consisting of epsom salts, half a pound; common salt, half a pound, and powdered ginger, 2 drachms. Dissolve in one quart of warm water and give the whole as a drench, and this treatment should be followed by giving of bi-carbonate soda, 1 ounce every night and morning until relief is had.

OLD PETER PARLEY.

WHO DESERVES THE CREDIT FOR HIS HISTORIES?

Were They Written By N. P. Hawthorne or Mr. Goodrich, the Publisher?

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

I was pleased with your suggestions in Sunday's paper in relation to the man who should write them and the manner in which the school histories for our children should be written. The facts should be known, and they should be exhibited in a plain, simple style, suitable to the fresh young minds of the children and rendered attractive by pictures of prominent men and events, to impress their memories. The author should know children and their taste should be consulted.

PETER PARLEY.

You speak approvingly of Peter Parley's books, and it is about him that I want to write. The boys and girls of fifty years ago will never forget old Peter as long as they live. He stamped his tales and stories upon their minds indelibly. Right before my mind's eye now, as plainly as I can see my friend Charles Cordard's rosy face and smiling countenance as he greets me as he passes me on the street, appears Peter Parley as he looked in the picture in his book entitled "Par